

DHANMONDI EIDGAH

Public park a far cry



BDR is running a fair price shop on the western part of the Eidgah Maidan.

CITY CORRESPONDENT

Department (PWD).

Making of a public park on the open space of the western part of Dhanmondi Eidgah on Sat Masjid Road has become uncertain due to unavailability of funds from the Public Works

"We have sent a letter to the Ministry of Public Works. We will not get the fund this financial year as this is the end of the year. The design of the park is done we are now waiting for the allocation," said a high official PWD.

At present the land is occupied by a fair price shop of BDR, water pump house of Wasa, some small shops and a cleaners' shed of Dhaka City Corporation on the adjacent footpath.

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The civil engineering and arboriculture wings of PWD are concerned departments to convert the area into a park. Finding the public land unattended for years the Eidgah mosque committee with the help of the ward commissioner chopped down

several trees on the site.

In the plan Tk 13 lakh was allocated for fencing the park. The project was submitted to the chief engineer's office on February 14. The department of arboriculture, planning the landscaping of the park had also

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sent their plan and design of the project estimating Tk 5 lakh.

On June 11 last year the Ministry of Housing and Public Works approved the plan.

According to the plan there will be a grill-fenced boundary and the arboriculture wing would plant trees along the Sat Masjid Road.

The local ward commissioner and the Eidgah mosque committee have attempted to grab the around one bigha land situated between Sat Masjid Road and the Eidgah. On January 23, the committee with the help of the ward commissioner chopped down

PWD officials claimed that the Eidgah belongs to the Department of Archaeology and the mosque is a Waqf estate but the remainder of the land, an area of 2.5 acres belongs to PWD.

The mosque authority has been using parts of their land upon receiving the permission from PWD.

Residents of the area want the place to be converted into a park but fears that if the process is delayed the powerful mosque committee backed by local ward commissioner Abul Khaer Bablu who is now in prison.

Unauthorised CNG

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About curbing these unauthorised autorickshaws, he said BRTA has stopped selling autorickshaws in 2004 when BRTA stopped giving registration of the vehicles.

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Railway's delay

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railway authorities after the media exposed the anomalies.

The government has recently undertaken a project called Integrated Development of Hatirjheel area including Panthapath-Pragati Sarani link road to construct a ring road instead of elevated roadway.

According to railway officials, in case of renting out land under such deal it must not exceed five-year term for renewal, but in this case the deal has been made for 60 years.

Prof Md Mujibur Rahman, who led the study group of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) on the Begunbari canal, said earlier that constructions of BGMEA building, Sonargaon Hotel extension and proposed FBCCI building in Begunbari canal are not compatible with the recommendations the study group had made in its report to Rajuk.

The Dhaka Metropolitan Development Plan (DMDP) earmarks the Begunbari canal as a natural canal and clearly prohibits any change to its status.

10x3

10x2

10x3